

[54] METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR LINEAR VOCAL CONTROL OF CURSOR POSITION

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[57] ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus for linear vocal control of

cursor position within a computer display system. A microphone is utilized in conjunction with a computer system to detect vocal utterances and each vocal utterance is then coupled to an analysis circuit to detect voiced and unvoiced vocal utterances. Variations in the pitch of each voiced vocal utterance and the virtual frequency of each unvoiced vocal utterance are then utilized to linearly vary the position of a cursor in the computer display system in two axes independently. In a depicted embodiment of the present invention the analysis circuit includes a short delay to ensure that a valid control signal has occurred. Thereafter, increases or decreases in pitch or virtual frequency from an initial value are utilized to initiate movement by the cursor in a positive or negative direction in the two axes. Cursor motion will persist until pitch or virtual frequency return to an initial value or until the utterance ceases. In one embodiment of the present invention the appearance of the cursor is graphically altered to indicate the presence of a valid control signal.

12 Claims, 2 Drawing Sheets

